## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatuses are disclosed for handling digital data packets at a logical borderline that separates an untrusted packet-switched information network from a protected domain. A packet processor part intercepts a packet that is in transit between the untrusted packet-switched information network and the protected domain. The packet is examined at the packet processor part in order to determine, whether the packet contains digital data that pertains to a certain protocol. If the packet is not found to contain such digital data, it is processed at the packet processor part. If the packet is found to contain digital data that pertains to said certain protocol, it gets redirected to an application gateway part that processes the packet according to a set of processing rules based on obedience to said certain protocol. The packet processor part is a kernel mode process running in a computer device and the application gateway part is a user mode process running in a computer device.

Fig. 1

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed: Box Patent Application, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231 on <a href="December 7.2001">December 7.2001</a> (Date of Deposit)

Express Mail Receipt Number: EL656067150US

Ronald Craig Fish, President Ronald Craig Fish a Law Corporation

Reg. No. 28,843